

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a titanium oxide powder material, comprising:

mixing titanium oxide powder particles, a solvent and a barium-containing material soluble in the solvent to prepare a titanium oxide slurry;

removing the solvent from the slurry to obtain a solvent-free mixture; and

heating the solvent-free mixture so that a barium compound is present on the surfaces of the titanium oxide powder particles thereby forming a titanium oxide powder material,

wherein the amount of said barium-containing material is such that the barium content of the titanium oxide powder material is in the range of 0.001 to 0.1 mol per mol of titanium.

2. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a titanium oxide powder material according to claim 1, wherein said heating is such that the barium compound on the surfaces of the particles in the heating step has a thickness of about 3 to 30 nm.

3. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a titanium oxide powder material according to claim 1, wherein said heating is such that the barium compound on the surfaces of the particles in the heating step has a thickness of about 5 to 15 nm.

4. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a titanium oxide powder material according to claim 1, wherein said heating is at a temperature of about 150°C or less.

5. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a titanium oxide powder material according to claim 1, wherein said heating is at a temperature of about 150-600°C.

6. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a titanium oxide powder material according to claim 1, wherein said heating is at a temperature of about 600°C or more.

7. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a calcined barium titanate comprising:

mixing titanium oxide powder particles, a solvent and a barium-containing material soluble in the solvent to prepare a titanium oxide slurry;

removing the solvent from the slurry to obtain a solvent-free mixture;

heating the solvent-free mixture so that a barium compound is present on the surfaces of the titanium oxide powder particles;

mixing particles of the titanium oxide powder with a barium compound present on its surfaces with a barium compound powder to form a powder mixture, and
calcining the powder mixture.

8. (Original) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 7, wherein the barium content of the titanium oxide powder is in the range of 0.001 to 0.1 mol per mol of titanium.

9. (Original) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 7, wherein the titanium oxide powder has a specific surface area of about 5 m²/g or more.

10. (Original) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 7, wherein the titanium oxide powder has a specific surface area of about 10 m²/g or more.

11. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 10, wherein said heating is such that the barium compound on the surfaces of the particles in the heating step has a thickness of about 3 to 30 nm.

12. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 11, wherein said heating is such that the barium compound on the surfaces of the particles in the heating step has a thickness of about 5 to 15 nm.

13. (Original) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 12, wherein said heating is at a temperature of about 150°C or less.

14. (Original) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 12, wherein said heating is at a temperature of about 150-600°C.

15. (Original) A method of manufacturing a barium titanate powder according to claim 12, wherein said heating is at a temperature of about 600°C or more.

16. – 20. (Canceled)